

MASSES & SERVICES

December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday Anticipated Mass: 5pm
Sunday Masses: 9am, 11am, 5pm

Mon – Fri Masses: 8am
Thurs OLPH Novena: Following 8am Mass
Sat & Holidays: 9am Mass
Sat: Adoration 9:30am - 10am

Reconciliation
Sat 4pm – 4:45pm
Or by Appointment:
Call 604-224-4344

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday 9:30am-4pm
Friday 9:30am – 2:45pm

CLERGY & STAFF
Pastor
Fr. Babu Mathew, CSsR
Associate Pastor
Fr. Joseph Horo, CSsR

Office Manager
Virginia Fong
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Bookkeeper
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Lora Clarke
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 Olphchurchvancouver



OLPH Church, 2465 Crown

Rejoice! The Lord Is Coming Soon

Dear Parishioners,

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday or joyful Sunday. We certainly have cause for joy - the coming of our Saviour on Christmas Day is close at hand. This is also the Sunday we light the pink candle in the Advent wreath and priests wear the rose chasuble, yes, rose not pink. It may not be my favourite colour but the liturgical significance does make it really special. Traditionally, Advent was a season of fasting just like Lent. Towards the end of these fasting seasons, the Church gives us a lighthearted lift of the spirits to remind us the time of celebration is near. Hence, Gaudete Sunday...a day of rejoicing, and its Lenten equivalent, Laetare Sunday.

For most people these days, Advent is not so much a time of fasting as a time of prayer and reflection. This can take the form of praying the Liturgy of the Hours, saying an extra rosary, joining an Advent retreat or taking part in a faith study. Last Saturday our choir, musicians and young readers did a wonderful job of leading us in the spirit of the season with thoughtful meditations and music. The Redemptorist Associates will take us a step further this Saturday with beautiful Alphonsian reflections anticipating the coming of the little child in a crib. The Rejoice Faith Study has also just begun. Sign up details are below.

This is also a good time for us all to reach out with generous hearts to those who need a helping hand. Although we're unable to do our annual Santa's Workshop, we will still be supporting under-resourced families of Strathcona School through gift cards. School families will be helping them with gift hampers. For parishioners, please see details in the News & Notices box about the types of gift cards you can donate for Strathcona.

Let us pray too for those who have lost homes and livelihoods in the recent floods. The Archdiocese of Vancouver has set up the [Fraser Valley Relief Fund](#) to help those in need.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Babu Mathew, CSsR



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

FRI DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE:
4pm (Children's Mass) / 7pm /
9:30 pm Caroling & 10 pm Mass
(No midnight Mass)

SAT DEC 25 CHRISTMAS DAY:
9am /11am /5pm
(No anticipated Mass for Dec 26)

SUN DEC 26 FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY: 9am/11am/5pm

MON DEC 27 – FRI DEC 31:
Morning Mass 8am

SAT JAN 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD: 9am & 11am
5pm Anticipated Mass for Jan 2

SUN JAN 2 EPIPHANY: 9am /11am /5pm

MON JAN 3: Morning Mass 8am

Shout aloud and sing for joy: great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. – Isaiah 12

NEWS & NOTICES

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS

Christmas Eve Children's mass will be taking place on December 24th at 4pm. Please use this link to sign up for readings, choir, or the skit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0945ADA82CA6FB6-olph>. Please note that if your child participates in the skit, they must be in Gr. 1 or older and they will need to attend 3 rehearsals (exact dates/times TBA) between December 18th-23rd. Readers will rehearse on December 23rd from 11-11:45am in the church. Thank you for your faith-filled dedication to our beautiful children's masses! We hope to see many families at this Christmas mass. If you have any questions, please contact Agata at krondyk@aquinas.org. Thank you!

2022 DONATION ENVELOPES FOR PICK-UP

Donation envelopes for 2022 are available for pick-up in the church foyer before and after Masses this weekend till the end of December 2021. Please make sure you get the correct donation box as some last names and first names may be similar to your own. During the week and after the year-end, boxes will be available for pick-up at the parish office during office hours.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Meal Prep Helpers: We are looking for more helpers for the Meal Prep Program. Please contact Lara Garcia, olphchurchvolunteers@gmail.com if you are interested in helping

PROJECT ADVANCE

Please note the deadline for Project Advance is Thursday Dec 30 if you wish to receive a 2021 tax receipt. Our parish goal for Project Advance this year is \$106,000 which will go toward education bursaries for families affected by the pandemic as well as infrastructure development. To make your donation, read Fr Babu's message and find out about our parish appeal, [please use this link](#).

SUNDAY COFFEE SIGN-UP JANUARY/FEBRUARY

If you can help with Sunday coffee, please use the link below. More details are available on the sign-up page. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054CAEA728A7FC1-sunday>

MASKS REQUIRED AT ALL MASSES

As of December 1, 2021, [provincial health guidelines](#) dictate that "Masks are required in all indoor public settings including places of worship by all people born in 2016 or earlier (age 5+), including congregants and choirs. Masks but can be temporarily removed for ceremonial eating and drinking, and by officiants, readers or for singing a solo where physical distancing is observed. Masks have been required at Mass in the Archdiocese of Vancouver since Archbishop Miller's August 25th instruction.



ADVENT RETREAT

Sat Dec 11 from 10am - 11:30am in OLPH Church

Join us for a Saturday morning meditation with readings from the writings of St Alphonse on the Crib, the birth of the Lord. The focus is on Jesus in the crib, a tender contemplation of what it means to experience the presence of God as man. Presented by the Redemptorist Associates. Admission is free.

STRATHCONA SCHOOL CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Our annual appeal to aid families of Strathcona School in eastside Vancouver is here again. The school pantry which provides for families in need, has requested gift cards from No Frills or Superstore. You can drop your gift card through the Parish office mail slot. Please write "Strathcona" and the dollar value of your gift on the envelope. The deadline for gifts cards is 5pm, Sun Dec 12. Gift cards will be taken to Strathcona early Monday morning.

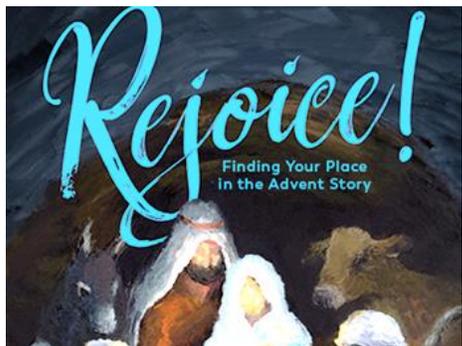


REJOICE! FINDING YOUR PLACE IN THE ADVENT STORY

Mon Dec 6, 13 & 20 OLPH Church

Go deeper into what it means to prepare for the coming of the birth of Jesus. 3 Mondays Dec 6, 13 & 20. The first two sessions are on Zoom, 10am-11am. The third session is in person at OLPH Parish Hall 11am - 12:30pm. Masks required. Sign-up Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BAFAA2DA1FB6-advent2>

Zoom Link: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/81785908328> for first two sessions



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